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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/868,678	09/27/2001	Martha Torrey O'Connor	05222.00155	2979

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BANNER & WITCOFF AND ATTORNEYS FOR ACCENTURE
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EXAMINER

SHARON, AYAL I

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2123

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/868,678

Applicant(s)

O'CONNOR ET AL.

Examiner

Ayal I. Sharon

Art Unit

2123

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 September 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>02/07/2002</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

A

DETAILED ACTION

Introduction

1. Claims 1-18 of U.S. Application 09/868,678 filed on 09/27/2001 are presented for examination. This application is a 35 U.S.C. §371 National Stage Application of PCT Application PCT/US99/02736, filed on 02/08/1999.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. Examiner has considered the references cited in the Search Report file submitted on 06/20/2001. These references are listed in the IDS submitted on 02/07/2002.
3. Examiner has also considered the Michael Smialek's protest (and accompanying affidavits) under 37 CFR 1.291 of application 09/219,478 (now issued as U.S. Patent 6,782,374). The Applicants submitted a copy of this protest "as a courtesy to the Examiner" along with the IDS of 02/07/2002, but did not list them on the Form-1449 "because they are not prior art references. (See IDS statement, filed 02/07/2002). These documents have been entered into the record, and have been considered.

Double Patenting

4. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees.

See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

5. Claims 1-9 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,032,141. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the scope of claim 1 in the instant application is broader than those in the issued patent, and therefore the claim in the issued patent reads on the claim in the instant application.

- a. Limitation (a) of Claim 1 in the instant application is:

"presenting information indicative of a goal"

Limitation (a) of Claim 1 in the issued patent is (emphasis added):

"accessing the information in the spreadsheet object component of the rule-based expert system **to retrieve information indicative of a goal**"

- b. Limitation (b) of Claim 1 in the instant application is identical to limitation (b) of Claim 1 in the issued patent.

- c. Limitation (c) of Claim 1 in the instant application is:

"integrating information that motivates accomplishment of the goal tailored to the student's personality"

Limitation (c) of Claim 1 in the issued patent is (emphasis added):

“utilizing the information in the spreadsheet object component of the rule-based expert system to **integrate** goal-based learning **information** in a structured, dynamic business simulation designed by a Profiling component **to motivate accomplishment of the goal tailored to the student’s personality**”

d. Limitation (d) of Claim 1 in the instant application is:

“monitoring progress toward the goal and providing feedback that further motivates accomplishment of the goal tailored to a student’s personality”

Limitation (d) of Claim 1 in the issued patent is (emphasis added):

“**monitoring** answers to questions posed to evaluate **progress toward the goal** utilizing the spreadsheet object component of the rule-based expert system and providing dynamic, goal-based, remediation learning information feedback from a remediation object component including a knowledge system and a software tutor comprising an artificial intelligence engine which **generates individualized coaching messages to further motivate accomplishment of the goal tailored to the student’s personality**”

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the limitations in Claim 1 of the issued patent are more specific than that which is claimed in Claim 1 in the instant application, and therefore the issued claim reads on the pending claim.

6. The limitations of claims 2-9 in the instant application are identical to the limitations of claims 2-9 in the issued patent, with the exception of the intend use described in the preambles of the allowed claims.
7. Claims 1-9 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No.

6,067,537. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because Claims 1-9 of U.S. Patent 6,067,537 are identical to Claims 1-9 of U.S. Patent 6,032,141, which are described in detail in the rejections in the two paragraphs immediately above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(f) he did not himself invent the subject matter sought to be patented.

9. The prior art used for these rejections is as follows:
10. Cook et al., WO 97/44766. Publication Date: 11/27/1997. (Henceforth referred to as "**Cook**").
11. In addition, the 35 U.S.C. §102(f) and 35 U.S.C. §102(b) "on sale bar" rejections are based on Michael Smialek's protest, under 37 CFR 1.291, of application 09/219,478 (now issued as U.S. Patent 6,782,374). Applicants submitted a copy of this protest "as a courtesy to the Examiner" along with the IDS of 02/07/2002
- 12. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) based upon a public use or sale of the invention.**
13. Exhibits A and C of Michael Smialek's protest, under 37 CFR 1.291, of application 09/219,478 (now issued as U.S. Patent 6,782,374), provide evidence

Art Unit: 2123

that the invention in that application was in commercial use for more than one year before the filing date.

14. In addition, in a response to a Requirement for Information under 37 C.F.R.

1.105 for application 09/219,478 (now issued as U.S. Patent 6,782,374), the

Applicant in that case admitted that:

“The Requirement for Information also seeks the date of first sale and first use of the ‘products’ for which documentation is being submitted ... it is difficult to determine exactly a date of first use and first sale for each of the products or portions of the products.”

(See Response to 1.105, p.4, submitted 02/07/2002)

and also:

“However, in order to expedite the prosecution of the present application and related applications, the Examiner may initially assume that a first sale or first use of the products occurred more than 1 year prior to the filing of the present application.”

(See Response to 1.105, p.4, submitted 02/07/2002)

15. Examiner notes that the specification of the protested application 09/219,478 is

identical to the specification of the instant application.

16. Examiner also notes that the common ownership of the two applications.

17. In addition, Examiner notes that it was the Applicants that submitted the protest

information of the 09/219,478 application into the record of the instant

application, as an attachment to the IDS submitted on 02/07/2002.

18. Examiner therefore finds that the admission in application 09/219,478 applies to

the instant application as well.

19. Examiner interprets the "1 year prior to the filing of the present application" as referring to the filing date of the PCT application, given that such a date corresponds to the dates in Exhibit A of Michael Smialek's protest.

20. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(f) because the applicant did not invent the claimed subject matter.

21. Exhibits A and B of Michael Smialek's protest, under 37 CFR 1.291, of application 09/219,478 (now issued as U.S. Patent 6,782,374), provide evidence of misrepresentation of ownership.

22. In a response to a Requirement for Information under 37 C.F.R. 1.105 regarding this specific issue, the Applicant in that case argued the following:

"Furthermore, even if Mr. Smialek is the author of the computer code listed on pages 133 through 163 of the present specification, authorship and inventorship are distinct concepts, and the authorship of the program does not in itself make Mr. Smialek an inventor. There is no specific evidence in the record to suggest that Mr. Smialek contributed to the conception of any of the subject matter in any claim. Even the Affidavit filed by Mr. Smialek (Ex. A of the protest) fails to provide any specific information indicating that he contributed to the conception of any subject matter in any claim. Because of the absence of any specific evidence suggesting that Mr. Smialek contributed to the conception of any subject matter in any claim, Applicant requests reconsideration of objection to the declaration." (See Response to 1.105, p.6, submitted 02/07/2002)

23. Examiner respectfully disagrees with the argument that:

"Even the Affidavit filed by Mr. Smialek (Ex. A of the protest) fails to provide any specific information indicating that he contributed to the conception of any subject matter in any claim."

Examiner notes that Item 8 of Exhibit A of the protest states that:

"8. In April 1996 I conceived of and conceptually designed the spreadsheet object component known internally at Anderson Consulting as the Simulation Engine

9. In the claims of the eighteen issued patents related to application 09/219,478, the Simulation Engine is referred to as the "spreadsheet object component"

Therefore, the protestor has specific information indicating that he contributed to the conception of any subject matter in any claim.

24. In addition, Examiner notes that U.S. Patents 6,067,537 and 6,032,141, which have been applied in the double-patenting rejections elsewhere in this Office Action, both expressly cite the term "spreadsheet object component" in their Claim 1.

25. On a related issue, another argument presented in the response to the 37 C.F.R. 1.105 is:

"Since Mr. Smialek was under an obligation to assign his patent rights to the assignee, it was irrelevant to the Assignee whether Mr. Smialek was named as an inventor."
(See Response to 1.105, p.8, submitted 02/07/2002)

Examiner wishes to remind the Assignee that assignee rights are different from Inventorship rights, and that even if the Inventor has signed away his ownership rights to the application, that does not mean that he has signed away his inventorship rights.

26. Examiner therefore finds the argument in the Response to the 37 C.F.R. 1.105 to be unpersuasive.

27. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cook.

28. In regards to Claim 1, Cook teaches the following limitations:

Art Unit: 2123

1. A method for creating a presentation, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) presenting information indicative of a goal;

(See Cook, especially: p.10, lines 24-34)

- (b) determining a student's personality;

(See Cook, especially: p.2, line 36 to p.3, line 30; and p.7, lines 27-35; and p.8, lines 17-32)

Cook expressly teaches (p.7, lines 34-36): "From the student, it [the "agent"] accepts direct interactions as well as using the history of previous student performance stored in a student data object."

- (c) integrating information that motivates accomplishment of the goal tailored to the student's personality; and

(See Cook, especially: p.8, lines 7-25)

- (d) monitoring progress toward the goal and providing feedback that further motivates accomplishment of the goal tailored to a student's personality.

(See Cook, especially: p.10, lines 24-34)

29. In regards to Claim 2, Cook teaches the following limitations:

2. A method for creating a presentation as recited in claim 1, including the step of determining a student's personality based on a student's answers.

(See Cook, especially: p.10, lines 24-34)

Cook expressly teaches (p.10, lines 24-34): "A further important object of this invention is to utilize augmented computer-assisted instruction materials which present to students a variety of interactive, adaptive, and self-paced computer-assisted instruction and homework materials in a manner which informs the agent of a student's progress and performance and which permits the agent to manage or control the materials to the student's pedagogic characteristics."

Examiner interprets that the claimed "student's personality" corresponds to the prior art's "student's pedagogic characteristics."

30. In regards to Claim 3, Cook teaches the following limitations:

3. A method for creating a presentation as recited in claim 1, including the step of providing praise for the student if the student's personality is indicative of praise.

(See Cook, especially: p.60, lines 14-16)

Art Unit: 2123

Cook expressly teaches that "The types of encouragement, level of jokes, and so forth, depend closely on the intended student population and are advantageously adjustable."

31. In regards to Claim 4, Cook teaches the following limitations:

4. A method for creating a presentation as recited in claim 1, including the step of having the student repeat an exercise if the student's personality is indicative of problems.

(See Cook, especially: p.10, lines 24-34)

Examiner interprets that the prior art's "... which informs the agent of a student's progress and performance and which permits the agent to manage or control the materials to the student's pedagogic characteristics" reads upon this claim.

32. In regards to Claim 5, Cook teaches the following limitations:

5. A method for creating a presentation as recited in claim 1, including the step of utilizing the selected personality to feed back the student's own work to the student.

(See Cook, especially: p.10, lines 24-34)

Examiner interprets that the prior art's "... which informs the agent of a student's progress and performance and which permits the agent to manage or control the materials to the student's pedagogic characteristics" reads upon this claim.

33. In regards to Claim 6, Cook teaches the following limitations:

6. A method for creating a presentation as recited in claim 1, including the step of determining the student's personality by comparing answers to pre-stored answers indicative of known personalities.

(See Cook, especially: p.10, lines 24-34)

Cook expressly teaches (p.10, lines 24-34): "A further important object of this invention is to utilize augmented computer-assisted instruction materials which present to students a variety of interactive, adaptive, and self-paced computer-assisted instruction and homework materials in a manner which informs the agent of a student's progress and performance and which permits the agent to manage or control the materials to the student's pedagogic characteristics."

Examiner interprets that the claimed "student's personality" corresponds to the prior art's "student's pedagogic characteristics."

34. In regards to Claim 7, Cook teaches the following limitations:

7. A method for creating a presentation as recited in claim 1, wherein the feedback is based on a number of times the student has a particular personality.

(See Cook, especially: p.10, lines 24-34)

Cook expressly teaches (p.10, lines 24-34): "A further important object of this invention is to utilize augmented computer-assisted instruction materials which present to students a variety of interactive, adaptive, and self-paced computer-assisted instruction and homework materials in a manner which informs the agent of a student's progress and performance and which permits the agent to manage or control the materials to the student's pedagogic characteristics."

Examiner interprets that the claimed "student's personality" corresponds to the prior art's "student's pedagogic characteristics."

35. In regards to Claim 8, Cook teaches the following limitations:

8. A method for creating a presentation as recited in claim 1, wherein the personality is determined based on interaction with an agent.

(See Cook, especially: p.10, lines 24-34)

Cook expressly teaches (p.10, lines 24-34): "A further important object of this invention is to utilize augmented computer-assisted instruction materials which present to students a variety of interactive, adaptive, and self-paced computer-assisted instruction and homework materials in a manner which informs the agent of a student's progress and performance and which permits the agent to manage or control the materials to the student's pedagogic characteristics."

Examiner interprets that the claimed "student's personality" corresponds to the prior art's "student's pedagogic characteristics."

36. In regards to Claim 9, Cook teaches the following limitations:

9. A method for creating a presentation as recited in claim 1, wherein the personality is determined based on interaction with an agent.

(See Cook, especially: p.10, lines 24-34)

Cook expressly teaches (p.10, lines 24-34): "A further important object of this invention is to utilize augmented computer-assisted instruction materials which present to students a variety of interactive, adaptive, and self-paced computer-assisted instruction and homework materials in a manner which informs the agent of a student's progress and performance and which permits the agent to manage or control the materials to the student's pedagogic characteristics."

Examiner interprets that the claimed "student's personality" corresponds to the prior art's "student's pedagogic characteristics."

37. In regards to Claim 10, Cook teaches the following limitations:

- 10. An apparatus that creates a presentation, comprising;
 - (a) a processor;

(See Cook, especially: p.7, lines 11-30)

Computers inherently have processors and memory.

- (b) a memory that stores information under the control of the processor;

(See Cook, especially: p.7, lines 11-30)

Computers inherently have processors and memory.

- (c) logic that determines a student's personality;

(See Cook, especially: p.2, line 36 to p.3, line 30; and p.7, lines 27-35; and p.8, lines 17-32)

Cook expressly teaches (p.7, lines 34-36): "From the student, it [the "agent"] accepts direct interactions as well as using the history of previous student performance stored in a student data object."

- (d) logic that integrates information that motivates accomplishment of the goal tailored to the student's personality; and

(See Cook, especially: p.8, lines 7-25)

- (e) logic that monitors progress toward the goal and provides feedback that further motivates accomplishment of the goal tailored to a student's personality.

(See Cook, especially: p.10, lines 24-34)

38. In regards to Claim 11, Cook teaches the following limitations:

- 11. An apparatus that creates a presentation as recited in claim 10, including logic that links information that motivates accomplishment of the goal to the presentation.

(See Cook, especially: p.60, lines 14-16)

Cook expressly teaches that "The types of encouragement, level of jokes, and so forth, depend closely on the intended student population and are advantageously adjustable."

39. In regards to Claim 12, Cook teaches the following limitations:

12. An apparatus that creates a presentation as recited in claim 10, including logic that monitors user interactions to determine the progress toward the goal.

(See Cook, especially: p.10, lines 24-34)

Cook expressly teaches (p.10, lines 24-34): "A further important object of this invention is to utilize augmented computer-assisted instruction materials which present to students a variety of interactive, adaptive, and self-paced computer-assisted instruction and homework materials in a manner which informs the agent of a student's progress and performance and which permits the agent to manage or control the materials to the student's pedagogic characteristics."

Examiner interprets that the claimed "progress toward the goal" corresponds to the prior art's "student's progress and performance."

40. In regards to Claim 13, Cook teaches the following limitations:

13. An apparatus that creates a presentation as recited in claim 10, including logic that organizes objects according to relevancy to progress toward the goal

(See Cook, especially: p.10, lines 24-34)

Cook expressly teaches (p.10, lines 24-34): "A further important object of this invention is to utilize augmented computer-assisted instruction materials which present to students a variety of interactive, adaptive, and self-paced computer-assisted instruction and homework materials in a manner which informs the agent of a student's progress and performance and which permits the agent to manage or control the materials to the student's pedagogic characteristics."

Examiner interprets that the claimed "organizes objects according to relevancy to progress toward the goal" corresponds to the prior art's "informs the agent of a student's progress and performance and which permits the agent to manage or control the materials to the student's pedagogic characteristics."

41. In regards to Claim 14, Cook teaches the following limitations:

14. An apparatus that creates a presentation as recited in claim 10, including logic that calculates a quantitative degree of correctness to determine the progress toward the goal:

(See Cook, especially: p.10, lines 24-34)

Cook expressly teaches (p.10, lines 24-34): "A further important object of this invention is to utilize augmented computer-assisted instruction materials which

Art Unit: 2123

present to students a variety of interactive, adaptive, and self-paced computer-assisted instruction and homework materials in a manner which informs the agent of a student's progress and performance and which permits the agent to manage or control the materials to the student's pedagogic characteristics."

Examiner interprets that the claimed "calculates a quantitative degree of correctness" corresponds to the prior art's "informs the agent of a student's progress and performance."

42. In regards to Claim 15, Cook teaches the following limitations:

15. An apparatus that creates a presentation as recited in claim 10, including logic that organizes feedback categorically.

(See Cook, especially: p.60, lines 14-16)

Cook expressly teaches that "The types of encouragement, level of jokes, and so forth, depend closely on the intended student population and are advantageously adjustable."

43. In regards to Claim 16, Cook teaches the following limitations:

16. An apparatus that creates a presentation as recited in claim 10, wherein the feedback is based on a dynamic orientation factor.

(See Cook, especially: p.60, lines 14-16)

Cook expressly teaches that "The types of encouragement, level of jokes, and so forth, depend closely on the intended student population and are advantageously adjustable."

Examiner interprets that the claimed "dynamic orientation factor" corresponds to the prior art's "intended student population".

44. In regards to Claim 17, Cook teaches the following limitations:

17. An apparatus that creates a presentation as recited in claim 10, wherein the feedback is based on past information presented.

(See Cook, especially: p.10, lines 24-34)

Cook expressly teaches (p.10, lines 24-34): "A further important object of this invention is to utilize augmented computer-assisted instruction materials which present to students a variety of interactive, adaptive, and self-paced computer-assisted instruction and homework materials in a manner which informs the

Art Unit: 2123

agent of a student's progress and performance and which permits the agent to manage or control the materials to the student's pedagogic characteristics."

45. In regards to Claim 18, Cook teaches the following limitations:

18. An apparatus that creates a presentation as recited in claim 10, including logic that completes the presentation when the goal is achieved.

(See Cook, especially: p.10, lines 24-34)

Cook expressly teaches (p.10, lines 24-34): "A further important object of this invention is to utilize augmented computer-assisted instruction materials which present to students a variety of interactive, adaptive, and self-paced computer-assisted instruction and homework materials in a manner which informs the agent of a student's progress and performance and which permits the agent to manage or control the materials to the student's pedagogic characteristics."

Correspondence Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ayal I. Sharon whose telephone number is (571) 272-3714. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, and the first Friday of a biweek, 8:30 am – 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Teska can be reached at (571) 272-3716.

Any response to this office action should be faxed to (703) 872-9306, or mailed to:

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

or hand carried to:

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Art Unit: 2123

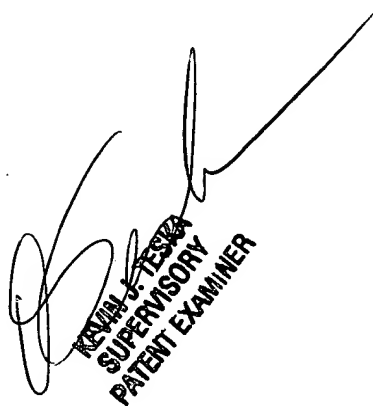
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Tech Center 2100 Receptionist, whose telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

Ayal I. Sharon

Art Unit 2123

May 13, 2005



KEVIN J. TESKE
SUPERVISORY
PATENT EXAMINER